

SCORES PERISH

Two Hundred Lives Lost in Awful Sea Disaster.

DEAD MOSTLY ARABS

English Steamer Burned Off the Coast of Malta—Fire Apparatus Was Useless—Passengers Trapped and Were Forced to Jump Into the Sea and Drown.

Valetta, Island of Malta, Nov. 28.—A terrible disaster, in which more than a hundred persons lost their lives, occurred at the entrance to this port Wednesday morning. The British steamer Sardinia, of the Ellerman Line, hailing from Liverpool and bound for Alexandria, with a crew of 44 Englishmen, 11 first and 6 second cabin English passengers and nearly 200 Arab pilgrims aboard, caught fire and within a few minutes was a roaring furnace, the flames bursting upward to a height of 200 feet from frequent explosions in the hold.

So rapidly did the fire spread that the frantic efforts of the crew to operate the fire apparatus proved useless, for it seemed but a moment before the upper works and masts crashed down upon the deck while the ship's boats were crushed by the falling debris or set fire and quickly burned.

Safety life in the sea, for no one could save himself except by jumping overboard and taking chances of being picked up. Assistance was hurried to the burning vessel from all the war ships in the harbor and from the shore, but the work of rescue was greatly impeded by the strong tide that was running. Even the naval launches were unable to go alongside. Among the Arabs there was a panic that could not be controlled. Many of them were too frightened to jump and they were burned to death. Others, casting themselves into the waves, were drowned.

The crew behaved with admirable courage, serving out life preservers to the last and working the pumps. When the pumps became useless, Capt. Charles Little, commander of the Sardinia, took the helm and directed his ship towards the shore so long as it could be navigated. He perished at his post.

First Officer Frank Watson, all three engineers, Seagraves, Hissop and Neill, thirteen of the ship's company and two first class passengers, one of them a boy named Grant, are missing. Fifty or more bodies have been recovered and seventy persons were rescued. It is impossible at present to say just how many were drowned or burned to death, but the number will doubtless far exceed a hundred.

The vessel drifted around three times, and finally was beached broadside on the rocks at the mouth of the harbor. She is still burning and will be a total loss.

The British vice admiral, Sir Asheton, and Curzon-Howe and Admiral Fisher directed the rescuing boats, which did gallant work in saving those who were yet alive, and bringing the bodies of the dead ashore.

Capt. Little's body, which was terribly mangled, was landed this afternoon. The other bodies were also mutilated and burned. Fifty-six of the injured are being cared for in the hospitals. One of the rescued passengers gave a graphic account of the disaster.

"The Sardinia," he said, "left Valetta at 8:45 this morning. We were just outside the harbor and the crew securing the anchor when the cry of 'fire' was heard. Flames could be seen issuing from a ventilator on the port side. A hose was promptly brought up and a stream poured down the ventilator, but this did no good. In less than ten minutes flames were streaming out of the other ventilators. The whole vessel admiptships was wrapped in flames. The Arab passengers were told to leave the hatch, in which they clung desperately, but they refused to move. All who remained forward perished, except some of those who leaped into the water.

"In the meantime naval pinnaces hurried to the scene. They could not approach closely on account of the high seas and falling spars. The great majority of the European passengers succeeded in reaching shore. The Arabs, among whom were many women and children, clung together shrieking, and but few of them would jump overboard, although urged to do so.

"The ship's boats were rendered useless by the flames and no attempt was made to get them over the side. Soon the hatches were blown off with loud explosions, throwing the Arabs into the air and killing and injuring many of them. After a few minutes had been spent in trying to put out the fire nothing remained but to jump overboard."

Unquestionably explosions occurred, although the cause of the fire is not known, and it was first believed that the rapid spread of the flame was due largely to the flowing naphtha.

HANGED AT SALUDA

SLAYER OF EMANUEL CARVER PAYS PENALTY

On the Gallows for His Crime. Shot His Victim While He was Picking Cotton.

Saluda, Nov. 28.—A special to The News and Courier says at 12 o'clock on Friday Will Herrin paid with his life the penalty of the law for the murder of Emanuel Carver in September.

The execution was without a hitch. Only a very few minutes were consumed in preparing the prisoner for the drop. After ascending the scaffold, Sheriff Sample asked Herrin if he desired to say anything. He merely mumbled a word or two to the effect that he had nothing to say.

At no time did he seem to realize what was awaiting him, and he met his fate without the least emotion. He was pronounced dead in ten minutes after the trap was sprung, and his body was laid in a cheap coffin, furnished by the county, and carried to the poor house for burial.

The Rev. D. H. Crossland went to Herrin's cell this morning and conducted a little service. The condemned man manifested absolutely no interest in it. While an effort was made to shield the execution from the public, scores from positions of vantage witnessed it.

Will Herrin was tried before Special Judge C. C. Featherstone at a special term of the Sessions Court in October for the murder of Mr. Emanuel Carver at his home in September. The testimony at the trial show that Herrin, without any apparent cause whatever, shot Mr. Carver in the back while the latter was picking cotton and failing to kill him ran upon him, knocked him down and beat him over the head with his gun and left him dead. Mrs. Carver was a witness to a part of the awful deed, she being in the house when the shot was fired, and running to the door was horrified to see her husband down and Herrin standing over him, beating his head into a pulp with a gun.

As soon as the news of the crime was made known some of Carver's neighbors went to the scene and soon found Herrin a little distance away, and upon advancing on him to take him into custody, was met with a volley of curses and fired upon with a stockgun, he having broken the weapon while beating Carver. One of the party was sprinkled with shot, and the crowd in turn fired at Herrin and effected his capture. For a while a lynching was imminent, but cooler counsel prevailed and the culprit was turned over to the sheriff and brought to Saluda and lodged in jail.

There was a tremendous crowd present to witness Herrin's trial, but the best of order prevailed. The defendant was the only negro in the Court House during the trial, except the porter, and to all appearances was the least disturbed by what was taking place.

The only defence that could possibly have been made in Herrin's behalf was insanity, and this question was fairly submitted to the jury, and under the testimony no other verdict than that reached could have been returned.

Herrin was, however, a man of a very low order of intelligence.

KILLED A PLANTER.

Three Negroes Arrested Charged With the Crime.

Greensboro, Ala., Nov. 28.—Sheriff Gwin has captured three negroes, charged with the murder of Former Sheriff R. W. Drake, near Laneville, Ala., Thursday night. One of the negroes confessed and implicated the other two. He says that he held the light while the other two negroes killed Mr. Drake by knocking him in the head with an axe; that they then saturated his clothing and the bed clothing with oil and set fire to them. Steps have been taken to call a special term of court to try the negroes because of the feeling, which is running high.

YOUNG MURDERER.

Boy Aged Fourteen Shoots Lad of Ten.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Nov. 26.—Clarence Little, ten years of age, was shot and instantly killed by Tom Wickes, aged 14, Monday afternoon. Young Little chafed the Wickes boy on returning from a hunt without any game, and said: "I would not be afraid to give you a shot at me." "By G—, I'll take it," said Wickes, and fired a charge of buckshot into the boy's breast. The coroner's jury held Wickes for first degree murder.

Killed by Train.

Covington, La., Nov. 26.—While passing the station at Florenville, La., one car of a Great Northern railroad gravel train jumped the track and crashed into the depot.

Mrs. J. W. Confor, wife of the treasurer of the Covington Naval Stores Company, who was waiting for a train, was killed outright. Several negroes were badly injured.

GOES DOWN

Steamer Finance Is Rammed by the Steamer Georgic and

SINKS OFF NEW YORK

Collision Occurs in Dense Fog in Main Channel—Three of the Eighty-five Passengers on the Finance, One Member of Her Crew and Much Mail Lost.

New York, Nov. 28.—In the thick of a fog off Sandy Hook Thursday the stout steel freighter, Georgic, of the White Star Line, rammed and sank the lightly laden Panama steamer, Finance, outward bound with 85 passengers, the Finance going down within ten minutes, carrying to their death three of her passengers and one of the crew. The rest of the passengers, who included 19 women and 14 children, as well as other of the crew were rescued by the boats of the Georgic. The freighter was not damaged.

Miss Irene Campbell, of Panama, a passenger who was lost, clung frantically to the rail of the sinking vessel and could not be persuaded to release her hold, nor were the men who manned the small boats able to remove her. She was seen clinging determinedly as the vessel was engulfed. Wm. H. Todd, third assistant engineer, jumped overboard and was lost. When a roll call of the passengers of the Finance was called, it was found that Charles H. Schweinler, a policeman of Panama, and Henry Muller, a railroad conductor of Panama, had disappeared and there is little doubt that they were drowned.

The disaster occurred in the main ship channel off Sandy Hook at 8 o'clock this morning, and as both vessels were groping their way through a fog. The Finance had weighed anchor and was picking her way down the Swash Channel, when Captain Motbray, who was on the bridge, heard the whistle of an approaching liner. The Finance was immediately started astern, and was slowly backing when the Georgic, in bound from Liverpool, loomed out of the fog and a moment later crashed into the port side, and just about the beam of the Finance. The prow of the freighter penetrated the side of the Finance nearly ten feet, tearing away an unoccupied state room and leaving a ragged hole, through which the water rushed in.

The Panama keeled far over to starboard, while men and women, many of whom had been awakened from a sound sleep, were thrown from their berths. Hastily covering themselves with bed clothing, they rushed in a panic to the main deck, which was fast sinking to the surface of the water. Many of the passengers jumped overboard, not stopping even to provide themselves with life preservers. That more were not lost was due to the discipline of the crew of the Panama, and the prompt and intelligent work of the sailors from the Georgic.

Immediately after the accident, the freighter backed off and anchored, her commander, Capt. Clark, in the meantime having ordered the life boats lowered. The boats of the Panama were also cut away as quickly as possible, though with difficulty because of the heavy list of the sinking steamer.

A score or more of those who jumped overboard were picked up by the small boats. Meantime the Finance was settling steadily. To add to the confusion a moment after the impact there was an explosion of an ammonia tank in the forward hold of the Finance and the fumes drove the engineers and firemen to the deck. Wm. Todd, the third assistant engineer, was partially overcome by the fumes, he, staggering to the rail, threw himself overboard. He was not seen again. Probably half of the passengers with the crew stood by the ship, awaiting rescue, and these were gotten off with remarkable expedition.

Captain Mowbray and several of the crew remained in a life boat near the sunken ship. Only the masts, stacks and part of the superstructure of the Panama remained above the surface.

The shipwrecked passengers and crew were brought to this city tonight and placed aboard the Panama steamer, Alliance, where the women and children were provided with clothes. The passengers will depart on the next outgoing bound steamer for Panama.

Captain Clark, of the Georgic states that he was feeling his way into port slowly, and hearing a whistle on his port bow, tried to veer off and thought he would clear the Panama steamer, which unfortunately began to go astern, with the result that the two steamers collided. The Finance had over seven hundred bags of mail aboard. Four elephants in the Georgic's hold were undisturbed by the collision.

Commits Suicide.

New York, Nov. 28.—George Schuester, 62 year old, a veteran of the German army, shot himself with the old army pistol that he carried through the campaigns of the Franco-Prussian war. He had been out of work for two months.

SERVED HIM RIGHT

YOUNG NEGRO MAN WROTE INDECENT LETTER

To a Young White Lady and Is Taken From Jail and Is Operated Upon.

A special dispatch from Spartanburg to the Charleston Evening Post says Will Dickson, a young negro man of Madison, Oconee county, was arrested on the charge of writing an offensive and indecent letter to a young lady, the daughter of a well known banker of Westminster, was made away with by a party of men Friday night.

The negro has been taken from the guard house, where he was confined at Westminster by unknown parties, who with the negro then immediately disappeared, and there is much speculation as to what was done with the dead. Everything about the affair was done decently and in order, says the dispatch, but with great secrecy.

It was reported at first that the scoundrel had been lynched, and then it was reported that after being taken out of the guard house and carried to a place of secrecy a delicate operation was performed on him, after which he was told to leave the town, which he lost no time in doing. Where he went or what has become of the rascal no one knows, or if they know they won't tell.

The only thing certain about the affair is that the negro who wrote the letter was caught and that he was taken out of the guard house by force and that his whereabouts is unknown except to those who took him out of the guard house. It seems that they first thought of lynching the scoundrel, but finally decided that an operation would be more effective, and that mode of punishment was adopted and carried out.

OVER TWELVE MILLION BALES.

Commissioner Watson Estimates Cotton Crop of 1908.

The cotton crop of 1908 will amount to 12,551,086 bales, according to the estimate made by Commissioner Watson, of South Carolina, as chairman of the cotton committee of the Southern States Association of Commissioners of Agriculture and Other Agricultural Workers. In announcing the estimate, Mr. Watson says:

"Our estimates, which is based on telegraphic reports received from all the States save Georgia, whose commissioner is absent from the State, dated November 19, and on the ginners' reports of November 14, is 12,551,086 running bales, excluding linters. This conclusion is reached after due allowance for the weather and other crop conditions for 1908. Were the estimate based entirely on amount of cotton ginned to November 14, in years when same ginners' results were shown, the 1908 crop would be 13,498,879 bales. But conditions have not been the same in the various years.

"Were we to take the average amount of cotton for the past four seasons to be ginned after November 14, we would have to add 3,704,157 bales, to the 9,630,563 bales already ginned, and get a total crop of 13,334,720 bales. If we add to the amount already ginned in 1908 the amount ginned after November 14 in 1905, to which year 1908 conditions closely correspond, we will have a total crop for this year of 12,632,925 bales which, it is seen, closely approximates the estimate of 12,552,086 bales that the Association's committee considers a fair one."

WAITING FOR DINNER TICKETS.

Victims of Republican Prosperity Fall Into a Pit.

New York, Nov. 28.—One hundred needy persons waiting patiently in drizzling rain on Wednesday evening in front of a mission house in West Thirty-second street to receive tickets for a Thanksgiving dinner, crashed through the thin covering over a part of the new Pennsylvania tunnel system and disappeared in the darkness below. Shouts and cries arose from the pit and a crowd which collected gazed down upon a tangled heap of arms and legs.

When they clambered out it was found that only two or three had been injured, and these only slightly. When calm had been restored the hungry ones lined up and received their precious tickets and dispersed, rubbing their bruises.

Both Will Die.

Rome, Ga., Nov. 28.—After hunting together all day Bert Montaine and John Accomasy, each about fourteen years of age, engaged in a duel, caused, it is said, by the former daring Accomasy to cross the road, and as a result both of the boys may die.

Shoots Up Train.

Knoxville, Tenn., Nov. 29.—While a passenger on a Southern Railway train near Greenville, John Parker, of Washington county, became violently insane. Pulling a pistol he began firing promiscuously, a young man named Lowery being wounded in the left leg.

THE WAY OUT

And the Only Way Out For the Farmer.

SOME PLAIN TRUTHS

Corn, Wheat and Stock Farmers of the West Regulate Prices by Living at Home, and Southern Farmers Can Do the Same Thing if They Will Try to Do It.

Hon. John M. Parker, of New Orleans, discussed the methods of cotton farmers in plain, hard words that evoked much applause during the forenoon of the last day of the Farmers' Union Convention at New Orleans. He spoke as follows:

"It is much more pleasant and safe to hand bouquets than it is to throw brick, and, for that reason, most speakers at farmers' gatherings adopt the former course, and give 'the hardy sons of toil' such a surfeit of flattery as to make a blunt statement of existing conditions most unwelcome.

"A number of personal experiences have satisfied me the majority are like children, and prefer a sugar-coated pill to quinine. Sometimes it is necessary to give your medicine straight. Due to low prices and the boll weevil, already over a large section and certain to spread further, the time has come for the farmer to take his dose like a man.

"My excuse for this preface is having addressed a number of farmers' gatherings and having been hooted and hissed at, too, I now ask as a personal favor that you hold up any demonstrations until my short talk is finished, as it is decidedly unpleasant for a speaker to be interrupted with the shout 'Throw him out,' and then again, it is apt to interfere with this argument.

"There is no more improvident man on earth than the average cotton planter. In those good old days, before the war, of which the orator tells us, history says every farmer had his smoke-house packed with bacon, his crib filled with corn, the grist mill hummed regularly, and the farmers waxed fat and prosperous.

"Today not one cotton farmer in ten raises meat. Not one in five raises corn enough to last him, and, shameful to say, thousands actually buy the hay necessary to sustain their stock.

"Annually now for some years the cotton farmers meet in convention, listen to some good political speeches, and occasionally a new joke, then vigorously applaud the fervid oratory denouncing all trusts, and finally organize the biggest kind of a trust to regulate prices, agree to decrease acreage and diversify their crops, to raise what they need at home, and be independent of bank, cotton factors or merchants.

"Their final resolutions are enthusiastically carried at the convention hall, and all conveniently forgotten, for by the time they return home, they decide to plant a little bit more cotton, and they keep on in the same old way.

"Do you ever hear the wheat grower, or the corn grower, or the oat grower, or the mule raiser call conventions to 'regulate prices'? Not on your life. He goes ahead, skips close until he gets out of debt, then asks the value of his product and holds it until he gets it. He don't sit on the fence and cry for either moral or financial sympathy.

"The curse of our cotton planter is debt, and until he gets out of debt he will never realize his dreams of independence.

"Have you ever thought that in the great chain of the credit system the cotton planter forms one of the important links? How the tenant borrows from the planter, who borrows from the merchant or factor, who, in turn, borrows from the local bank, which borrows in one of the great financial centers, which, in turn, borrows from the financial centers of Europe, and how in return both from the picking of the cotton to the final sending of the bill of exchange to reimburse the European center completes the chain?

"Credit is the whole system, with the high prices and excessive charges which must be made to cover the risk involved.

"Have you ever been through Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, or Iowa, and seen the farmers of those sections? Great, splendid barns filled with hay and corn and oats and silage. The pasture with sleek cattle and sheep and hogs, the tool-house filled with well-kept implements, everything neat and orderly, and some profit on every article raised. They rotate crops in those sections, and keep their property up, and have money in bank.

"Why do our planters still adhere to the razor-back hog and scrub cattle when at a less expense they could raise fine stock, which will improve the farm and go a long way towards lifting the mortgage. The loss and abuse of farm implements annually represent a fortune. Hoes, plows, harrows, mowing machines and wagons often lie, for months exposed to the elements and when the crops of corn and cotton are gathered they are shamefully cared for. The leaky barns with damaged corn

VOTED FOR TAFT

BUT THEIR WAGES WERE NOT RAISED.

According to Promise and Then Shot Down by Deputy Sheriffs Because They Struck About It.

Perth Amboy, N. J., Nov. 27.—Following a pitched battle between 700 strikers and twelve deputy sheriffs Wednesday at the factory of the National Fireproofing Company at Keasbey, near here in which six of the strikers were shot down, Governor J. Franklin Fort dispatched four companies of the State National Guard at Trenton to the scene to make the men behave themselves.

A feeling of intense excitement prevails, as the strikers declare, the deputy sheriffs were not justified in firing upon them. Two of the wounded men are dying here, and the four others wounded are painfully hurt. The citizens fear for the morning, when the strikers threaten an attack on the plant of the National Fireproofing Company.

For two days there has been rioting at Keasbey, and a number of manufacturing towns along the Raritan river. Two weeks ago the men employed by the Raritan River Clay Company went on strike for higher wages. They marched to the plant of the Perth Amboy Fire Brick Company and induced the men there to go out.

Then each succeeding day the strikers constantly increased in number, marched to other towns to induce employees to leave their work. The strikers say that they were given to understand before the election that if Taft was elected their pay would be restored to \$1.50 a day. It now is \$1.35. The officials of the factories deny that such a promise was made.

When Chief of Police Burke sent a man to bring lunch to the deputies the latter was met with a shower of stones, compelling him to retreat. The man succeeded later in leaving the factory unobserved and secured the food. As he was returning one of the strikers caught sight of him and immediately there was a general attack. The man was not injured. Then began a bombardment of stones, during which nearly every window in the factory was smashed.

Chief Burke says that two of his men were struck by missiles and slightly injured. He restrained his men from opening fire until the last minute, he declares. Matters had become so serious that the deputies were compelled to open fire to protect themselves, he further says.

At least a dozen of the shots were fired point blank at the strikers and six men fell. The strikers did not return the fire. The workmen turned and fled, leaving the wounded on the ground. There was only a temporary lull in the rioting. The strikers soon returned to the factory. They kept at a distance, but it was evident they were angered by the shooting down of their comrades.

SHOCKING TRAGEDY.

Five Persons Burned up in a Horse in Alabama.

Hartsell, Ala., Nov. 28.—The home of Tom Richardson, at Woodland Mills, seventeen miles east of here, was burned to the ground Wednesday night, and Richardson's wife, mother and three children were burned to death. The remains of the children were found in the burned barn which adjoined the house. Several theories have been advanced, all of which is robbery. Richardson is missing, but his body was not found in the ruins.

THIEF CUT GLASS

And Made Away with a Jar Containing Money.

Dublin, Ga., Nov. 28.—A bold burglary was committed last night, or early this morning in the city. In one of the large plate-glass windows of the hardware store of the Gilbert Hardware Company, a round opening about three feet in diameter was cut and a jar containing \$50 or \$60 in denominations from a penny to a silver dollar was stolen.

The jar was put into the window by the firm and the customers were allowed to guess the amount of money it contained. The burglars evidently used a diamond or steel cutter, and they were experts in their line. Marks are seen in the window on the opposite side of the store front showing that an effort must have been made also to take out the plate glass on that side.

Officers Rowland and Chavous of the police force discovered the burglary a few minutes after 3 o'clock this morning. There is not the slightest clue as to the identity of the burglars.

BURIED ALIVE.

No Hope for One Hundred Men Entombed in Mine

NEAR PITTSBURG, PA.

One Shaft Wrecked and Other Not Completed—Cage Blown 500 Feet

From Mouth, One Man's Head Being Taken Off—Women Quickly Gather, Their Cries Being Pitiful.

Pittsburg, Nov. 28.—A large number of miners are imperiled in a mine of the Pittsburg-Buffalo Coal Company at Marianna, near here, which caught fire following an explosion at 11:30 this morning.

President Jones, of the company says that one hundred men, constituting almost the entire force, were in the mine, which had just been examined by the State inspectors and was found in perfect condition.

A special train carrying a rescuing party, equipped with all the latest appliances, left Monongahela at 12:30 for Marianna.

There are said to be many English miners among the imperiled force. A dense cloud of smog is coming from the mine's two shafts. Great excitement prevails there.

Marianna is in Washington county, which was built a few months ago by the company, and is considered the most model mining town in the world.

It is believed many men lost their lives. The heavy iron cage which carried the men from the surface to the workings was blown three hundred feet from the mouth of the shaft. Two men on the cage were killed, one of them having his head blown off.

Little hope is entertained for the entombed men, as the fan house was partly demolished and the fans stopped for over an hour. The explosion occurred in shaft No. 2, No. 1 not being completed.

Some company officials believe it necessary to dig through eight hundred feet of solid coal before they can reach the workings. At 1:30 this afternoon the smoke ceased issuing from the mine. Wives, mothers and relatives of the miners gathered about the mine mouth, their cries being pitiful.

It is said that there is a large gas well in the vicinity, but whether the gas from this was communicated to the mine and became ignited or whether the powder and dynamite for blasting exploded can not be ascertained.

According to State Mine Inspector Louitt, there were between 180 and 200 men in the mine. It is not likely that any will be recovered alive. The rescue party succeeded in entering the mine this afternoon.

The last ray of hope for the rescue of any one of the miners was dispelled at 8:30 o'clock tonight when the first rescuing party reached the workings and found the dead bodies scattered about the floor of the mine.

Few if any of the bodies are mutilated and the men were undoubtedly smothered by the deadly vapors which followed the explosion. The bodies have not yet been counted, but it is known that there are at least 125 and the number may be larger. All but two of the bodies in the mine, it is said, are those of foreigners.

No effort has yet been made to remove the bodies from the mine. Instead the rescuers and the mining experts are making a complete exploration of all of the workings to see if they are now safe. This work is expected to occupy several hours.

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Tell-Tale Wounded.

Salsbury, N. C., Nov. 25.—Warren Whitmire, colored, was arrested here when he appealed to a physician for treatment of a gunshot. It is charged that he is a burglar who was shot by Mrs. Maud Fearnster in her home in this city last week, when she fired upon someone in the darkness at her bedside.